

Webster Co. ATC Summer Career Camp June 5-7, 2006

"Our camp was open to middle school students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Our teachers did an excellent job in discussing what programs are offered at our school and how students can build successful careers. They worked hard to provide exciting and interesting hands-on activities throughout the camp. Students were rotated through six different program areas and we encouraged parents to attend with their child(ren). It opened up an avenue where parents can now share with other parents the types of programs and activities we have at our ATC. We consider our efforts a success."

Tom Sisk, Principal



Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)

Instructor: Larry Garrity

Projects: Create House Plans
Architectural and
Engineering Design

CAD Instructor Larry Garrity not only worked with his campers in learning how to operate a CAD program, he took time to explain many career opportunities in engineering and architectural design. Each camper was given a folder that contained handouts they could take home to discuss professional and related occupations with their parents including drafters and engineering technicians, engineers, architects, surveyors, and cartographers.

"I wanted students to have fun and learn about the different careers they could go into if they enrolled in this program," says Garrity. "We have had a good week and our students have enjoyed the camp. They have also learned what types of programs we offer at our school. I made sure to include the Webster Co. ATC CAD Course Sequence so that parents would understand what courses are needed in the mechanical/technical option or the architectural option."

The magazine "*In Demand*," was also given to each student. It was written and produced by The McGraw-Hill Companies under contract to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The issue provided to students was geared toward "*Careers in Energy*."



Garrity and Elijah Caine, a 6th grade student, design a bridge.

"I liked this class and learned how to build a house," says Anna Ayers, a 7th grader from Clay Elementary.

"This camp was something different than what I thought," says Elijah Caine, a 6th grade student. "I learned about designing a bridge. I had to work on engineering and design to make the structure work."

"To design and create a bridge, we used a program called Westpoint Bridge Designer," says Garrity. "It was a program that I could download free from the Internet. The kids enjoyed seeing how the program worked."



Mr. Garrity and Anna Ayers look over the house design she created during class.

Health Sciences

Instructor: Jeana Carter

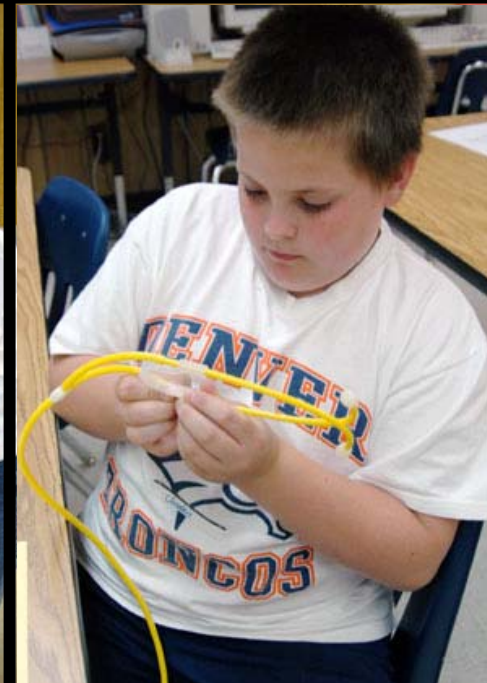
Activities: *Health Career Bingo

*How to take a pulse

*CPR

*Correct procedure in washing hands and using a glow light to see germs.

"There are all kinds of careers in the health care field and it just keeps growing. A person can go into almost any town in the United States and get a job in the field of health care," says Carter. "This camp is important because we can promote all of our programs by involving the students in fun filled, educational activities while they learn about real world careers. It benefits the students, parents and our school. This has been a great opportunity for us to recruit future students."



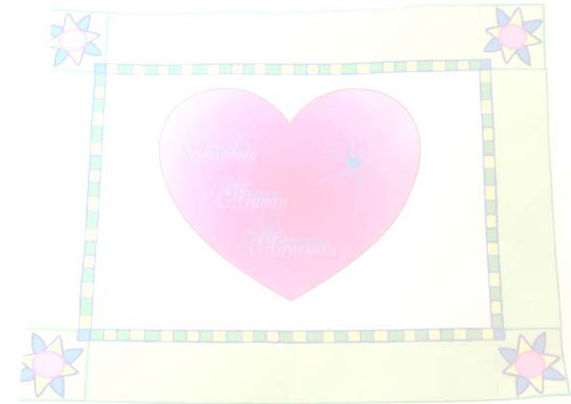
Information Technology

Instructor: Steve Collins

Activities: Create a T-shirt using digital photography and graphic design.

"Holding this type of camp allows us to have an interaction with middle school students to introduce them to technical careers and the pathways available to them through high school in developing their IGP's (Individual Graduation Plan)," says Collins. "By participating in this camp in our school, it helps them with the transition into high school and at the same time positively promote career and technical education. It allows them to better understand the opportunities available to them."

Collins, who has lived in Webster county all of his life, first came to the area technology center (formerly known as the area vocational education center) when it opened in 1976. He served as the president of the local VICA club (now called SkillsUSA) and was enrolled in the machine tool technology program. He understands the importance of vocational technical education in today's society and feels that all students should be exposed to the types of education and skills training offered at the ATC.





Making T-shirts



"I learned about what I could do with a career in photography," says Coleman Barnhill. "I also learned about digital photos. We went outside to take pictures and came back in to look at them on the computer."

"I learned about web designs and how to take digital pictures," says Ashley Messamore

Machine Tool Technology

Instructor: Don Herrin

Activities: Safety discussion in using equipment
Making a metal name plate

"This camp is a great way for students to learn about the programs we offer at our school. They get a chance to meet all of us and hear about different types of careers that they can learn more about by enrolling in our programs," says Herrin. "When they enter my classroom, I feel it's important to begin with a safety discussion. We talk about safety practices and procedures in using equipment. Safety is important and a big concern in the machine tool lab."

In photo at right:
Instructor Don Herrin
(far right) conducts a
safety class prior to
any student working in
the machine tool lab.
Students are
discussing the
importance of wearing
safety glasses while
working on a machine.



"I learned about the different machines and the X, Y and Z axes," says Blake Beaver, a 6th grade student from Dixon Elementary. "I really enjoyed the class."

"I learned how to cut and shape metal," says Nathan Curry, a 7th grade Dixon Elementary student. (Nathan is student at far right in photo on right).



Welding

Instructor: Tom Welshans

Activity: Constructing a metal cross made of mild steel and create a personal message using a Mig welder.

"This has been a great camp. I like to bring my students back to help teach this camp because it's a great way for students to connect with each other and it allows more one-on-one time for us to answer questions and help them understand how to weld," says Welshans. "The students who attend camp get to know more about what we offer at this school and we have a chance to meet their parents. I have found that this is good because welding is not just a career for guys, but one where women can make a good living too. We start talking about the careers from the standpoint of looking at what is in the welding lab and classroom like chairs and equipment; and what's outside that incorporates welding - cars, boats, swing sets, etc. It's important for people to understand that welding is everywhere. Then, this opens their minds to careers in welding."





Photo at left (l to r): 8th grade student Brittany Bryant and Instructor Welshans.

"I really liked cutting the metal," says Brittany Bryant, an 8th grade student. "This is a good career for women to make money."



Photo at right: 6th grader Kyle Welshans.

"I learned about the Mig and Tig welders," says Kyle. "Jared was awesome. He knows a lot about welding."

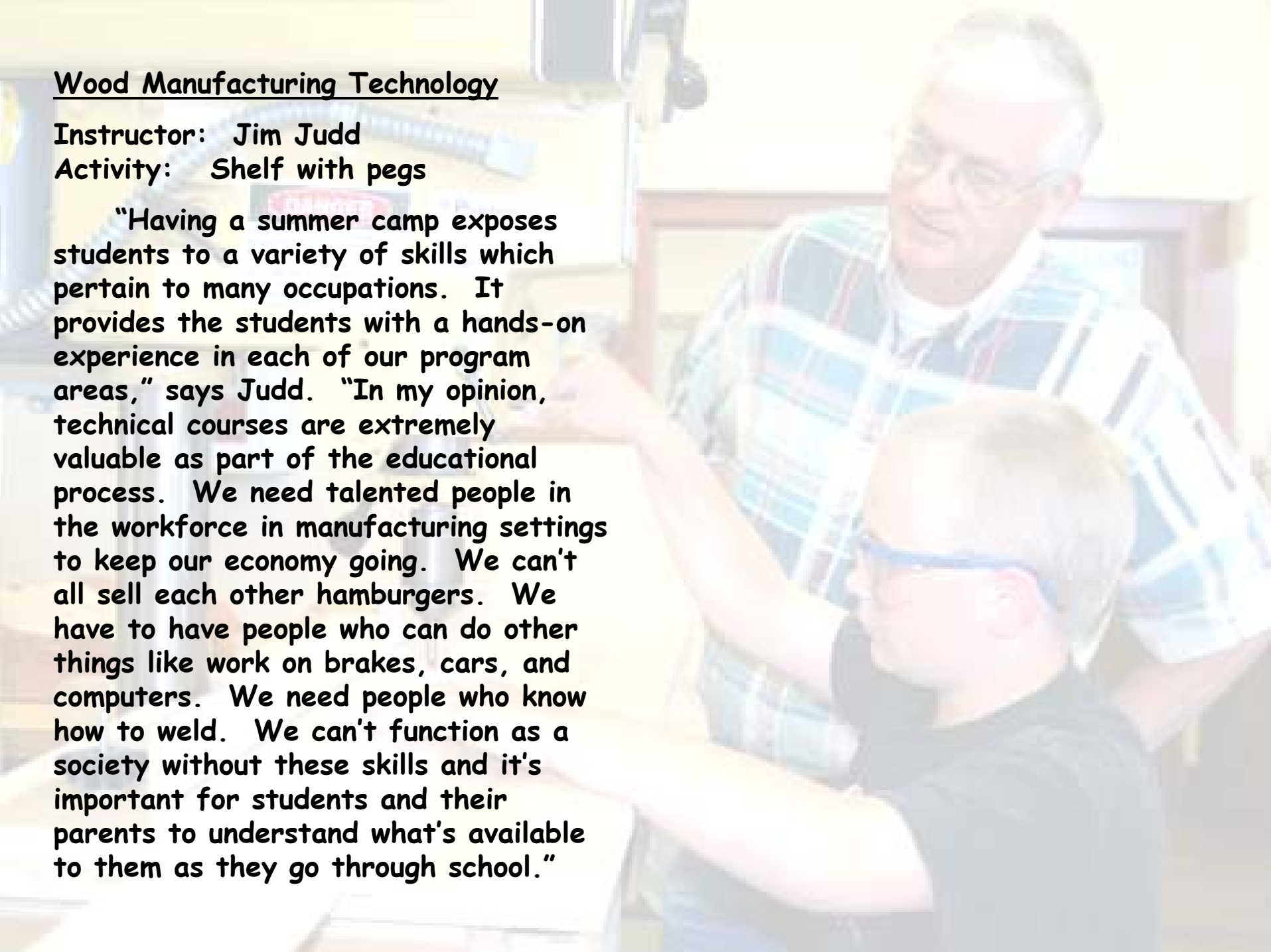
"I like helping with the summer camp so that the younger students can learn about welding," says Jared Garrett, an 11th grade student helper. "It's been fun for me."

Wood Manufacturing Technology

Instructor: Jim Judd

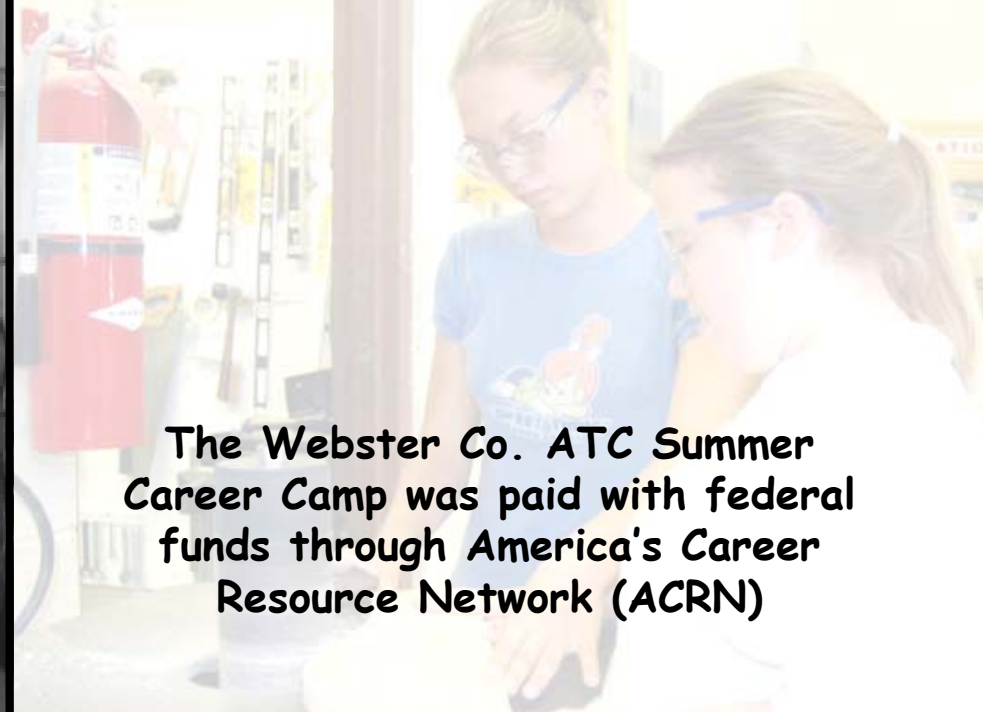
Activity: Shelf with pegs

"Having a summer camp exposes students to a variety of skills which pertain to many occupations. It provides the students with a hands-on experience in each of our program areas," says Judd. "In my opinion, technical courses are extremely valuable as part of the educational process. We need talented people in the workforce in manufacturing settings to keep our economy going. We can't all sell each other hamburgers. We have to have people who can do other things like work on brakes, cars, and computers. We need people who know how to weld. We can't function as a society without these skills and it's important for students and their parents to understand what's available to them as they go through school."





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